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No. 6,393,107) in view of Sonnenfeld (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,049). Claims 78-83 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ball et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,393,107).

On February 16, 2005, a telephone interview was conducted. Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the undersigned and Carol Forsyth during that telephone interview. During that interview, the Examiner made suggestions that he believed would overcome the art applied to reject the claims prior to the present amendment. Specifically, the Examiner suggested that the rejection of independent claim I would be overcome if it were amended to include one of the following phrases:

- That the recited delivery management mechanism comprises "a transaction server, a database, a scheduler, and a message queue, wherein the transaction server accesses the database, the scheduler, and the message queue".
- That the recited delivery management mechanism comprises "a transaction server, a database, a scheduler, and a message queue, wherein customer address books in the database are selectively updated by the customers or passively when messages are sent".
- That the recited delivery management mechanism comprises "a transaction server, a database, a scheduler, and a message queue, wherein the scheduler ".

In accordance with the first suggestion of the Examiner, Applicants amended each of independent claims 63, 69, and 78 to recite, among other features, delivery management mechanism comprising a transaction server, a database, a scheduler, and a